## REMARKS

This responds to a first Office Action after Applicant filed a Request for Continued Examination. Claims 1 and 3-14 are pending in this application, including independent claims 1, 11, 13 and 14. Claims 15-20 previously were withdrawn pursuant to a restriction requirement. All claims have been rejected again as obvious over the prior art. Keller is still the primary reference.

In addition, the claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 1, because the Examiner believes there is no support in the specification for the portion of the previous amendment stating that a session is formed "automatically" each time writing is performed. Applicant disagrees. This feature is inherent in Applicant's specification, just as the Examiner assumes this feature is disclosed in the prior art. Nevertheless, Applicant has amended the claims to avoid this language, in order to facilitate prosecution.

Applicant also has amended the claims to further clarify the claim invention and to correct dependency in some claims.

As background, Applicant's invention addresses a problem which arises from the storage of a large number of tracks on a recordable compact disk. With the use of current compression techniques, a user can record a large number of tracks (e.g., one hundred or more) on a CD-R. Therefore, it is difficult for the user to remember the track number of all of the hundred or more tracks, and the user must inconveniently operate the up/down key many times to listen to a desired track. (See application at p. 1, lines 10-30.)

Applicant's invention solves this problem in one aspect by managing the tracks on such a recordable medium in a user-friendly manner. In conventional systems for recording on a recordable medium such as a CD-R, a session is formed every time writing is performed. However, a user is not aware of the session organization in known systems. In Applicant's invention, the sessions are used effectively.

The present amendments clarify that the session and track file structure on the recordable optical disk are not created by Applicant's invention. Applicant's invention

relates to the management of the sessions and track files in a new way to a user's advantage. In claim 1, for example, the controller regards each session as a virtual disk, allocates a track number for each of the track files in each session in order of time of recording, and automatically plays back the tracks in a session in order of oldest to newest. The controller also displays a name of the virtual disk corresponding to the session containing the file being read, the track number of the track, and a name of the track. Thus, a user can easily find a desired track. (See application, e.g., at p. 2, lines 5-28.) Method claims 13 and 14 include corresponding limitations, and claim 14 adds a step of automatically playing back tracks in order of time of recording from the latest session and changing sessions in order of latest to earliest.

This operation is not disclosed in or suggested by Keller. Keller describes a compact disc recording device that stores a music library of sound tracks and includes a means for selecting sound tracks to be recorded on a compact disc (e.g., Abstract). A session in Keller is typically a group of sound tracks which have been previously assigned to that particular session (col. 15, line 68 to col. 16, line 2). Thus, a session can be formed by adding (or deleting) sound tracks at the time and option of the user, so that the sound tracks in a session are not in time order (see, e.g., the "time" column in Fig. 8). In other words, unlike Applicant's amended claims 1, 13 and 14, Keller does not "allocate a track number for each of the track files in each session in order of time of recording" and therefore also does not "automatically play back the tracks in a session in order of oldest to newest."

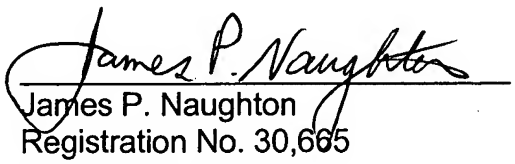
Claim 11 takes advantage of the functionality of a CD changer to make it easer to navigate among sessions recorded on a CD-R. The CD changer includes a next-disk key that is normally used for changing from a current CD to a next CD stored in the changer, and a previous-disk key that is normally used for changing from a current CD to a previous CD stored in the changer. In the embodiment of claim 11, however, each session on a CD-R is regarded as a separate virtual disk, and the next-disk and previous-disk keys of the CD changer can be operated manually to change between the sessions recorded on a CD-R. Otherwise, the embodiment of claim 11 automatically plays back the tracks in a session in order of oldest to newest and displays the name of

the virtual disk corresponding to the session containing the file being read. (See application, e.g., at p. 5, lines 21-31.)

This operation is not described or suggested in Keller or any other cited reference. The Examiner points to control keys 45 and 49 of Keller; however, these keys are not next-disk or previous-disk keys as further clarified in amended claim 11. Rather, those buttons in Keller are only "reverse track (button 45)" and "forward track (button 49)," as described at col. 5, lines 30-31.

In summary, Applicant submits that the claims, as amended, patentably distinguish over the cited art. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of this application in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks. If the Examiner believes this application still is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at 312-321-4723.

Respectfully submitted,



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